

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Charles Kosinski on 02/18/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. An apparatus for navigation in a vessel, comprising:

a catheter having a sensor probe connected thereto, the sensor probe being configured to move along the vessel, the sensor probe being configured to acquire a series of local images of the vessel at a region of interest as the sensor probe moves along the vessel;

a memory for storing a sequence of the local images that is obtained in the course of the movement of the sensor probe along the vessel; and

a data-processing unit that is configured to sort a further local image of the vessel into the sequence that is stored in the memory, the sorting being based on at least one similarity of at least one characteristic attribute of the vessel as shown within the further local image and one or more of the local images of the sequence.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SANJAY CATTUNGAL whose telephone number is (571)272-1306. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on (571) 272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/SANJAY CATTUNGAL/
Examiner, Art Unit 3768

/Long V Le/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3768